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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

DECLARATION OF CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER FREE STATUS

COMMUNICATION FROM COLOMBIA

Revision

The following communication, dated 11 August 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Colombia.

1. On this occasion, we wish to inform WTO Members that the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has recognized Colombia's health status as a classical swine fever (CSF) free zone where vaccination is not practised (Central Eastern Zone).
2. Following the recommendation of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, on 27 May 2021, the World Assembly of OIE Delegates approved the recognition of the Central Eastern Zone, designated by the delegate of Colombia, as a CSF free zone, in accordance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
3. This recognition was achieved as a result of epidemiological surveillance activities and the strict control of animal movements in the Central Eastern Zone. This means that Colombia's swine production in the defined area (representing 95% of total production) is free from this disease.
4. Given Colombia's new health status granted by the OIE in its capacity as an SPS Agreement reference body, we wish to invite WTO Members to inform their health authorities so that restrictions may be lifted, thus facilitating ongoing processes to ensure compliance with sanitary requirements for pork originating in Colombia.
5. Further enquiries regarding the measures implemented by the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) for the declaration of CSF free status may be addressed to: asuntos.internacionales@ica.gov.co.